

THE RUTHERFORD Report

THE NEWSLETTER OF SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JANICE RUTHERFORD

July 2012



Charles and Taylor Johnson of Rancho Cucamonga tied the knot on June 20 in front of family members at the San Bernardino County Hall of Records. On average, about 17 marriages occur every day at the County facility in San Bernardino.

We on this continent
should never forget that
men first crossed the
Atlantic not to find soil for
their ploughs but to secure
liberty for their souls.

— Robert J. McCracken

Wedding Bells Ring at County Hall of Records

Most couples know they need a marriage license from the county where they're getting married to legally tie the knot, but that's not the only marriage service you'll find at the San Bernardino County Hall of Records.

Last year, 3,806 couples said their vows and became husband and wife at the Hall of Records. That's an average of about 15 marriage ceremonies every working day. The

venue is averaging about 17 a day this year. Friday is the most popular day of the week to wed, averaging about 20 weddings.

As you might expect, Valentine's Day is the most popular date to get hitched at the venue. Seventy couples were wed there on the holiday this year. Even more were married the

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Teen Volunteer Aims to Protect Environment



What started as a way to beat the summer doldrums may turn into a way of life for 18-year-old Jeff Graham of Rancho Cucamonga.

Jeff was on summer break from Vineyard Junior High School when he discovered an opportunity to volunteer at a day camp for young children at Central Park Community Center in 2006.

The newly built center was just a few blocks from Jeff's home, so he signed up and started working with kids at the camp.

"It kind of just grew from there because I learned that I really loved giving back to my community," said Jeff, who

graduated from Los Osos High School this year. "It's something I hope to find an occupation in once I'm older."

After a couple of years working at the kids camp, Jeff found another opportunity to volunteer at the community center's regular senior lunches.

"I was a waiter-slash-busboy-slash-dish cleaner, whatever was needed," he said. "I learned a lot about the restaurant business, and I was also able to talk to a bunch of very interesting people."

After a Youth Leadership Conference in the summer of 2010, Jeff began searching for a cause he could focus his efforts on.

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Friday before Valentine's Day, which fell on a Tuesday this year.

Perhaps it's the value that makes this wedding spot so popular. The civil ceremony only costs \$65. There are, of course, add-ons such as a DVD of the ceremony, flower bouquets, bubbles, a disposable camera, a souvenir pen, and, of course, a photograph, but the price is still just over \$100 even with all the extras. Couples would have a hard time finding a less expensive alternative.

"It's a lot cheaper and a lot quicker," said Chief Recorder De Ana Thompson. "They can get married here and then go have a party somewhere else."

The ceremonies, which average about 10 minutes, take place in one of two tastefully decorated rooms. One room accommodates about 20 people; the other is reserved for confidential weddings and is large enough for about five people. Couples can also get married outside under a portable gazebo.

County employees who perform the ceremonies do not use any religious references during the service; however, couples are free to talk about religion in their vows.

Here's another interesting aside to the marriage services provided by the Hall of Records. Anyone 18 or older who isn't already legally authorized to perform a wedding ceremony, i.e. not a member of the clergy, not a judge, not a state Legislator, etc., can get that authority by applying to be a one-day Deputy Commissioner of Marriage.

The bride, groom, or person solemnizing the wedding must be a resident of San Bernardino County. The person applying to be a Deputy Commissioner of Marriage also must complete an application, appear in person at the County Clerk's Office, and submit a \$75 fee at least six weeks prior to the ceremony.

After the application is approved, the new Deputy Commissioner of Marriage is given a short primer on his/her duties.

Family Business in RC Draws on Experience

Mark Monninger graduated from Cal State Fullerton with a degree in education in the 1980s, but a lucrative opportunity selling newfangled gadgets called cellular phones sidetracked him from the classroom.

Mark enjoyed selling the phones, which contained enough electronics to fill briefcases or backpacks, and eventually he realized that a career in sales was his bailiwick.

When his grandfather, Donald Hopper, passed away in 1988, leaving behind a successful office and drafting furniture store he started in Glendale in 1946, Mark and his mother, Donnalee Hopper, decided to keep the family business alive.

At the time, Mark lived in Fullerton, and his mother lived in the San Bernardino Mountain community of Green Valley Lake.

Neither wanted to commute all the way to Burbank, so they opened a new location for Hopper's Office and Drafting Furniture in Rancho Cucamonga.

Today, the family-owned business sells new and used office furniture both in the store's 30,000 square-foot facility and online.

Mark, who moved to Ranch Cucamonga in the 1990s, said the advent of computer-assisted drafting has reduced the number of customers buying drafting tables and

equipment. But there are also still many architects who enjoy the feel of drawing by hand, and there are fewer and fewer places where they can find their tools.

In addition, movie and television studios continue to embrace hand-drawn designs, and Hopper's Office and Drafting Furniture is one of only a few companies that rent the drafting equipment they need for their productions.

Like any good businessman, Mark is always searching for ways to improve his business, so when he learned about the San Bernardino County Workforce Development On-the-Job Training program that offered financial assistance to employ and train out-of-work residents, he jumped at the chance.

The first employee worked out well for the company, and since then, Mark has hired two more employees through the program.

"This kind of program gives me an incentive to hire employees," he said. "Tax breaks are nice, but they don't necessarily encourage you to hire someone."

Visit www.hoppersofficefurniture.com to learn more about this local business.

You can also find more information about San Bernardino County business assistance and job training programs at www.sbcountyadvantage.com.

Conference Provides Info on “Designer” Drugs

During a recent conference on substance abuse hosted by Rim Family Services, I learned about new so-called “designer” drugs that have been infiltrating our communities and putting our youth in jeopardy.

Since then, there have been a number of high-profile news stories about the drugs and their harmful effects, and I wanted to take a moment to share some information about these addictive and highly dangerous drugs.

The drugs include a synthetic form of marijuana that is sold under the names Spice, K2, and other monikers, and a powerful methamphetamine-like product commonly referred to as “bath salts,” which are sold under names such as Zoom, Red Dove, Scarface, and Blue Silk. The packages state the products are not intended for human consumption, but that’s just to make them look legitimate. The effects of synthetic marijuana include agitation, extreme nervousness, nausea, vomiting, rapid heartbeat, elevated blood pressure, seizures, hallucinations, and dilated pupils.

Bath salt use is associated with increased heart rate and blood pressure, extreme paranoia, hallucinations, and violent behavior, which cause users to harm themselves or others.

Believe it or not, these drugs were actually sold legally at smoke shops and liquor stores up until fairly recently.

On October 21, 2011, DEA used its emergency scheduling authority to control some of the synthetic substances used to manufacture bath salts, and 38 states, including California, have passed laws banning the sale and possession of the drugs.

Even so, some stores have continued to sell these products—often with retooled packaging or containing slightly different chemicals that produce similar effects. A group of concerned residents in the High Desert recently visited retail stores that had sold the products in the past and found one still selling synthetic marijuana and one case of suspected bath salts.

Communities Embrace Farmer’s Markets

Second District farmer’s markets are a great place to find healthy fruits and vegetables as well as handmade crafts. Here’s a list of some local markets.

- The Lake Arrowhead Village, 28200 Hwy 189, hosts a farmer’s market on Fridays from 4 to 8 p.m. The event includes a free concert.
- Fontana hosts a farmer’s market from 8 a.m. to noon every Saturday in the Center State parking lot located on the northeast corner of Sierra and Arrow.

- Upland hosts a farmer’s market on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 460 N. Euclid Avenue.
- Running Spring hosts a farmer’s market and artisan faire from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays near 2677 Whispering Pines Drive.
- San Antonio Heights hosts a backyard produce exchange from 9 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday of the month at Life Bible Fellowship Church.

Visit www.sbcounty.gov/Rutherford for more events.

2nd District Trivia

Last Issue’s Answer: The longest elevator in San Bernardino County is in Lake Arrowhead. The elevator is 185 feet long and provides access to emergency valves beneath the lake.

Question: San Bernardino County is larger than which four states combined?

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That's when he started getting involved in sustainability and other environmental causes.

"It's something I think I can make an impact in," he said.

When he got back to Los Osos High School as a junior, Jeff started the Grizzly Green Team to bring students with similar interests together to work on "green" projects, including a student garden at the high school.

"We've had lots of help from the schools maintenance staff, but my hope is that the students will take care of it," said Jeff, who secured a \$5,000 grant from the Inland Empire Utilities Agency to fund the project.

Jeff also organized a chapter of Green Team America that currently includes 10 schools from San Bernardino and Riverside counties. For one project, the group set up booths

at local farmers markets and gave away 500 free reusable shopping bags donated by Ralph's.

This summer Jeff is interning in the Community Programs Department at the Inland Empire United Way. He is currently helping to organize a financial literacy program sponsored by Bank of America, Healthy Rancho Cucamonga, and CB3 Sports. The program aims to teach middle school students how to manage their money.

"You don't want to have to learn about (finances) when you are older," he said. "You could, but most likely it will be learning from your mistakes, and those mistakes are much harder to get up from."

Jeff will enter U.C. Davis this fall. He plans earn a degree in Environmental Policy. His parents are Mark and Stephanie Graham.

Upcoming Events

July 2, 2012	The Crestline Library located at 24105 Lake Gregory Drive in Crestline hosts free yoga classes every Monday and Wednesday at noon. Come stretch out your tensions at the library overlooking Lake Gregory.
July 4, 2012	<p>The City of Rancho Cucamonga will host a fireworks show and other activities at the Epicenter starting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. Call (909) 477-2752 or stop by the Lewis Family Playhouse in the Victoria Gardens Cultural Center to buy tickets.</p> <p>The City of Upland will host the 26th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular at the Upland High School Football Stadium. Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased at Upland Recreation and Community Services, the Upland Public Library, Ford of Upland and Red Devil Pizza. This event begins at 5:30 p.m., and the fireworks with take off at 9 p.m. For more information please call (909) 931-4281.</p> <p>The Arrowhead Lake Association presents Fireworks Over Lake Arrowhead. Bring the whole family and enjoy a night filled with fun; the show begins at dusk. This event may be canceled if wind or other conditions present a fire danger.</p>
July 7, 2012	On the first Saturday of every month until October, the mountain community of Crestline hosts Art and Wine in the Pines from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Lake Drive. Stroll through a large area of artists and antiques dealers all in one place while enjoying a glass of wine, good music, and food. Art and Wine in the Pines is your chance to enjoy the beauty and charm of the quaint town of Crestline. Visit www.artandwineinthepines.com for more information.
July 14, 2012	Water slide by moonlight at Lake Gregory Regional Park this summer. The water slides will be open from 7 to 11 p.m. on Saturday nights in July and August, except July 7. The park is located at 24171 Lake Drive in Crestline.
July 14, 2012	The Rim of the World Recreation and Park District will host a Family Hike at Rock Camp. This easy, two-mile hike will feature discussions about Native Americans who lived in the area. The cost is \$2 per person and all hikes are limited to 20 people. For more information please call (909) 337-7275.
July 21, 2012	The Rancho Cucamonga Community & Arts Foundation presents "The Wizard of Oz" at 2 p.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. at the Lewis Family Playhouse located at 12505 Cultural Center Drive in Rancho Cucamonga. Bring the whole family and enjoy a fun night out. For tickets and show times, visit www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com .
July 28, 2012	Fontana hosts a car show from 3 to 5 p.m. on the last Saturday of every month until October. This free event features tons of classic and custom cars. It is located at City Hall, 8353 Sierra Avenue. For more information call (909) 349-6900.
July 28, 2012	Bring the family and come look at beautiful artwork at "Artists on A Street" in Upland on the last Saturday of every month. This event takes place on the corner of A street and 3rd Avenue from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dates and times are subject to change without notice. Please contact Supervisor Rutherford's office at (909) 387-4833 if you have any questions or suggestions for the Events Calendar. You can view information about more local events on Supervisor Rutherford's home page at www.sbcounty.gov/rutherford.